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## MOTION PICTURE PHOToplay

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# THE CAVE GIRL

*An Adaptation from the Stage Play by Guy Bolton and George Middleton*

Scenario by William PARKER ✓

### DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK

Little did Divvy Bates know that his father's purpose in taking him to the Bates lodge in the wilderness was to marry him off. J. T. Bates, the father, brought along Rufus Patterson, a fat youth, who also was in love with Elsie Case, so that Divvy would not suspect the romantic conspiracy that was on foot.

When Divvy did propose to Elsie—on the spur of the moment and influenced by the moonlight—he felt he had a secret to impart to the others. To his surprise, they all seemed to know that he was going to propose. To Divvy's further surprise, Elsie began to demonstrate sides of her character which convinced him that he had made an unwise choice. But he had proposed to her, and as a gentleman he must stick by his bargain.

The theft of wine by the cook and guide, Baptiste, left the party to do its own cooking and housework, for the elder Bates discharged Baptiste.

Elsewhere in the forest primitive was the cabin of Prof. Orlando Sperry. In the "wilderness" of a college room the professor had written a book entitled, "How to Live Like Primitive Man." When the book was published he was literally laughed out of the university.

He was living now with his daughter, Margot. The professor fully believed that they were existing according to the principles laid down in his book, but, as a matter of fact, the food they were consuming was being stolen from the storehouse at the Bates lodge by Margot, the daughter.

When Margot tried to steal more food at the Bates lodge she was captured by Divvy. For the first time in his life Divvy realized that he was actually in love.

Even though Elsie protested that Margot didn't look innocent to her, Divvy turned Margot loose. Divvy realized that if he ever went back to the city he would never be able to get out of his engagement to Elsie. That night he set fire to the boathouse and destroyed the boats. Baptiste, seeing Divvy in the act of doing this, decided it would be fine to make it a big fire. When Divvy goes to the house Baptiste sets fire to the lodge. It is destroyed and the entire party escapes with a varied assortment of clothes.

The next morning Divvy tramped through the snow and found the cabin of Professor Sperry. Margot was in it alone. She gave Divvy a good breakfast, and here he was found by the rest of the party.

When the professor returned to the cabin he learned how Margot had been getting food and it was a severe blow to his pride.

Divvy wanted to know if Margot had a boat in which the party could escape. After her first meeting with Elsie, Margot was not inclined to do anything for that young woman. In addition, Margot knew enough of Divvy's story to know that he did not want to marry Elsie. In fact, she was in love with him. Margot evaded the question of the boat.

Later Elsie discovered a boat hidden in the woods. She accused Margot of hiding it so she could keep Divvy near her. So sarcastic did Elsie become in her accusation that Margot picked up an axe and destroyed the boat—and declared she would see who was going to have Divvy.

But Margot's heart failed her when it came to the test. She told Divvy of still another boat she had hidden—but for some reason Divvy didn't seem to want to leave.

Baptiste had fallen in love with Margot the first time he had seen her. He came now and proposed marriage, but she could not conceive of marrying the French-Canadian guide.

Elsie came to the conclusion that if Divvy liked cave girls, she, too, would become one. So she dressed herself in boy's clothing, in imitation of Margot.

While walking through the woods, Elsie was mistaken by Baptiste for Margot. He started to kidnap her and then recognized Elsie. He humbly apologized and told her of his love for Margot. This gave Elsie an idea. She told Baptiste that she could help him to get Margot.

Some hours later Margot found a note in her cabin, saying that Baptiste had kidnapped Elsie and taken her to his cave. The note begged Margot to come at once.

Margot went quickly to the rescue of Elsie. She found Elsie alone in the cave. Margot declared she was not afraid of Baptiste. Elsie then changed her tactics and told Margot that Baptiste was deeply in love with her and would make her a good husband. Margot laughed at the idea.

Then Baptiste came forward from where he had been hiding and listening. He declared his love for Margot. She spurned him. They fought.

Baptiste said that he had wanted to marry her, but that now he would take her to his cabin in the hills and live with her.

At this Elsie cried out that was not their bargain, that Baptiste promised he would marry Margot.

Margot was quick to see that she was the victim of a frame-up. She fought to get free, but Baptiste carried her away and started down the river with her in his boat.

Conscience-stricken by her part in the affair, Elsie hastened back toward the cabin to get assistance. She met Divvy on the way and told him the facts. He ran to the boat Margot had hidden and started in pursuit of Baptiste.

Baptiste landed his boat a short distance above the falls.

Here Divvy came upon him. It was a terrific fight, and during it, Baptiste's boat got loose and started down stream toward the falls.

Margot was bound hand and foot and realized a terrible death awaited her.

When Divvy had vanquished Baptiste, he rushed madly down the river bank, making several short cuts through the deep snow in the frenzied

effort to reach the falls before Baptiste's boat.

In fleeing, Baptiste was killed by a landslide.

Divvy got to the brink of the falls just in the nick of time and grabbed Margot from the boat.

"Elsie saw that Divvy and Margot were in love and she gave him up—taking Rufus as a compromise husband.

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